

City College News

A newsletter for staff, faculty and alumni of George Brown College

SEPTEMBER 28, 2005 VOL. 23 NO. 2

Theatre School makes its move to the Young Centre

Going back to school is often accompanied by whining, complaining, and reluctance, if not blatant resistance.

But for George Brown Theatre School students, the first day of school was filled with cheering, laughter and unabashed jubilation as they explored their new theatre school in the Distillery Historic District.

"I'm more excited than you could ever imagine," gushed third-year student Jennifer Harding. "It's been a long time coming."

Harding is referring to the much-anticipated move from the dark basement of George Brown's Casa Loma campus to the light-filled, open concept Young Centre for the Performing Arts in the Distillery.

The George Brown Theatre School is sharing this newly renovated \$14-million facility with Toronto's premiere theatre outfit, Soulpepper, as well as other independent performing arts companies.

Stephen Murphy, a second-year student, said he feels the partnership with Soulpepper says a lot about the standard of excellence that the Theatre School is setting.

"The new space brings a new energy to the student body. There's a lot of natural light



Ryder Britton (left) defeats Patrick Cieslar in a play duel as the two "fight" to be the first students to perform at the Young Centre for the Performing Arts, the new home of the George Brown Theatre School. To view more photos, go to www.georgebrown.ca/whatsnew.

in here and more studio and theatre space to work with," Murphy said, surrounded by the excited chatter of his classmates during orientation in the lobby of the new school.

And like the aspiring actors they are, third-year students Ryder Britton, Jamie Spilchuk, and Patrick Cieslar put on a show to demonstrate just how excited they were about getting into their new school. The three

actors staged a duel of swords and quick-witted humour to see who would be the first to appear on the stage of the Young Centre.

While some finishing touches are still being made to the building, the sound of hammers and drills could not drown out the sound of the students' excitement about their new school.

Q&A with the President

Welcome back, everyone!

Although we are only one month into the new school year, so much has happened around the College as we are moving forward like never before.

We have opened a number of new learning spaces to enhance our students' experience such as the Theatre School's Young Centre for the Performing Arts; the new Interprofessional Learning Clinic at 175 Kendal; and the updated Learning Commons at Casa Loma.

Start up was a smooth and seamless process thanks to everyone in the student service areas and faculty pulling together to welcome our new and returning students. Management and the support staff union

reached an agreement, which has now been ratified and we are grateful that disruptions to our students were avoided.

We are all now on the same page going forward with key strategies such as the Academic Strategy, Student Experience, Health Sciences Positioning, and overall college positioning.

It has been a momentous September and I have every confidence that we will continue to build on our efforts and successes as the year goes on. But the positive changes that we seek to bring about require team work, dedication, and communication.

Through the GBC Staff Survey, college employees identified communication as a key concern of the institution. With this column in City College News, I hope to open up the lines

of communication across the College as everyone has access to this newsletter.

The purpose of the Q&A format is for readers to submit questions about anything related to the College and to get a straight and accurate answer — it's an opportunity for two-way communication which always proves to be more effective than one-way communication.

So I encourage you to ask questions — simple or complicated — to help you do your job better, to serve our students better, and to make our college better.

I look forward to hearing from you,
— Anne Sado

For more information on Q&A with the President, go to <http://inside.or> contact Diana Benjamin at dbenjam@gbrown.on.ca.

Role Call

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The department of Academic Excellence operates under the leadership of the Vice-President of Academic Excellence and Student Success and is made up of the following staff members:

- Marjorie McCollm, Director
- Hilde Zimmer, Chair
- Nancy Miyagi, Manager of Research
- Janice Henty, Faculty Researcher
- Colleen Thomas, Faculty Researcher

The main responsibilities and activities of the department are:

- **Institutional research** about the College, students, and staff through the Key Performance Indicators (KPI) survey, Student Feedback Questionnaire and research that supports the program review process, the development of new programs and curriculum, and strategic planning for the College.
- **Program review** which includes annual reviews conducted using quantitative measures and in-depth reviews of each program done every five to seven years.
- **Academic policies** which includes reviewing and updating policies such as Academic Appeals, Codes of Conduct, Intellectual Property, Race and Ethnicity Relations, and Disability Services.
- **Participation on committees** such as General Education Liberal Studies Approval Committee, Academic Excellence Committee of College Council, and Program Planning and Review Committee.

More information about the Academic Excellence department can be found at:

- www.georgebrown.ca/admin/vpacad
- www.georgebrown.ca/admin/vpacad/policies
- <http://insite/academicexcellence>

ACCESS CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

The Access Centre is one of the College's education centres, focusing on helping students prepare for post-secondary education and/or work. This Centre employs more than 60 staff, faculty, and administrators. Please check the College's Yellow Pages directory for a full list.

Programs in the Access Centre include:

- **College Vocational Program** – helps students who would not normally consider to qualify for traditional post-secondary education prepare for and find meaningful work.
- **Pre-programs in Health Sciences, Community Services, Business and Hospitality Services** – prepares students for entry into full-time programs at George Brown.
- **Literacy and Basic Skills and Literacy and Basic Skills for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Adults** – free academic program for students to upgrade their math and English skills in preparation for post-secondary education.
- **ACET - Assistant Cook Extended Training** – for survivors of mental illness and addiction to train for employment in the food service industry.

- **For You** helps adults who are coping with mental or emotional health challenges enhance their abilities to function as members of their community.

Redirection Through Education

assists adults with mental or emotional health difficulties in developing goals and strategies to work on educational, vocational and personal plans.

- **English as a Second Language** – (numerous skill levels) and ESL for Business, ESL for Technology and ESL for Nursing.
- **Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL)**
- **Counselling and support services for Aboriginal students**
- **Advising and Prior Learning and Assessment services**

The Access Centre also promotes education and awareness of issues related to mental health, addiction, disabilities, immigrants, and minorities through events such as an annual educational forum held on World Mental Health Day and leadership of projects in partnership with other colleges and community groups

More information about the Access Centre can be found at:

- www.georgebrown.ca/Marketing/FTCal/access
- www.georgebrown.ca/worldmentalhealthday

AROUND GEORGE BROWN

■ On Thursday, September 15, the **2005 United Way team** met at The 519 Church Street Community Centre to officially launch the annual fundraising campaign. This year's theme is George Brown's own version of "The Amazing Race," an ongoing event to sponsor the campaign with skill-testing questions, great prizes, and a fun twist on fundraising. The College's target is \$105,000, \$10,000 more than last year's goal. So far, George Brown is off to the races with more than \$36,000 raised as of September 23. College employees are encouraged to donate through pledges and participation in spirit events. The campaign is on now until November 25. For more information on pledges, spirit events, the Amazing Race, and our fundraising progress, go to www.georgebrown.ca/unitedway.

SUCCESS IN THE CITY

Congratulations to **Rosa Duran, Special Projects Co-ordinator for Alumni Affairs and George Brown College Foundation**, on winning the prestigious **TD Meloche Monnex Fellowship in Advancement**. She was one of three recipients chosen from across Canada. Duran, a recent Marketing graduate of George Brown College, was working for Alumni Affairs when she decided to apply for the \$25,000 fellowship last March. She says she didn't expect to win the award because a college graduate has not been a recipient since 2001. Duran was shocked but overjoyed when Ann Smiley, President of the Foundation, told her the good news. Her work experience with Cooperative Education, Marketing and Communications, and Alumni Affairs at the College, combined with her volunteerism, community spirit, and leadership enabled her to submit an impressive application

to the selection committee at TD Meloche Monnex (an insurance provider for professionals and alumni). The fellowship will allow Duran to work with Alumni Affairs and the Foundation office for the next year in preparation for the College's 40th anniversary in 2007. Currently, she is building relationships with first-year students and developing programs and events for George Brown alumnus. Duran says she is thrilled to be using her knowledge and skills to pursue her career goals in Advancement, event planning, and marketing.

In recognizing that our students aren't the only ones destined for great things, Success in the City acknowledges and applauds the innovation, intelligence and dedication of College administration, support staff and faculty. To submit an item about a person within the College who has been honoured for his or her achievements and community spirit, please send the recipient's name and information about the award to dberjan@georgebrown.ca.

In the Spotlight: Academic Excellence

As the implementation of the Academic Strategy gets into full swing this year, the department of Academic Excellence (AE) will continue to play a key role in the plan to transform George Brown College into a learning community.

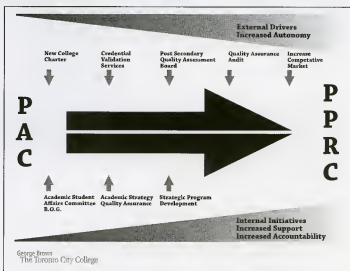
The piece that AE has been particularly involved in is Quality Assurance which focuses on the development of new programs and the continuous monitoring and evaluation of the College's academic programming through the Program Planning and Review Committee (PPRC).

AE has evaluated the College's current program review system, which involves development and approval, and is drafting an integrated Continuous Quality Improvement System which will expand on what was being done by the former Program Approval Committee (PAC).

The PAC was phased out and replaced by the PPRC about a year ago after a new College Charter was implemented. The new Charter shifted the responsibility of program approval from the government to individual colleges, specifically to the Boards of Governors. The PPRC was formed in response to this change and will play an integral role as the Academic Strategy and Quality Assurance are rolled out.

The diagram illustrates how the College is moving from development and approval to continuous monitoring of programming. Here's how each piece breaks down:

- **PAC** Program Approval Committee no longer exists at the College.
- **New College Charter** — shifted the responsibility of program approval from the government to the individual colleges. George Brown College then had to implement a system to address this new responsibility.
- **Credential Validation Services** — an external secretariat commissioned by the Ontario colleges to ensure the integrity of college credentials.
- **Post-Secondary Quality Assessment Board** — a Ministry secretariat that recommends to the Minister the approval of specific degree programs.
- **Quality Assurance Audit** — a second external secretariat set up by the Ontario colleges to ensure that each college has a robust quality assurance process.
- **The Board of Governors and Academic Student Affairs Committee** are responsible for approving new programs and ensuring that the College's processes address program relevancy, academic soundness and student and employer needs.



- **Academic Strategy - Quality Assurance** — one of the initiatives of the Academic Strategy.
- **Strategic Program Development** — ensures that new programs are aligned with the overall strategy of the College.
- **PPRC** — Program Planning and Review Committee is the new internal body that will implement the integrated Continuous Quality Improvement System.

The approval process for programs and courses will begin at the department and program level where it is incorporated into a business plan. It will then go to the PPRC, Academic and Student Affairs, the Board of Governors and the Credential Validation Service. The government's role is now limited to approval for funding.

The work that Academic Excellence has been doing around Quality Assurance will ensure that the programs offered by the College meet the needs of prospective students and employers and contribute to the success of our students.

To learn more, please contact Marjorie McColm at mmcolm@gbrown.on.ca.

In the Spotlight is a regular column that features different academic divisions and departments throughout the publication cycle of City College News. For more information on this column, go to <http://linstetcommunications/cnc/columns.asp> on any computer in the College.

Crystal Apple recipients shine

On September 28, students, staff, and faculty came together to celebrate teaching excellence and the learning community of George Brown at the fifth annual Crystal Apple Awards reception.

Ten professors were presented with Crystal Apple Awards for their hard work and dedication to their students.

The 2005 top award of \$5,000 was presented to Doug LaPorte, from the Centre for Advanced Building Technologies.

Student Cheryl Struzer wrote her winning nomination to thank LaPorte for his terrific teaching.

"Mr. Laporte is an outstanding professor who simplifies complex technical material and keeps the class engaged with his humour. Not only have I gained the knowledge I need to succeed in this field, but I've discovered the kind of person I want to be by Mr. Laporte's example."

Based on the essay submitted by GBC students, the OISE selection committee chose nine other recipients including Phyllis Beaton-Vazquez, Centre for Community Services; Khalid Danok, Centre for Engineering Technologies; Heather Donovan, Centre for Health Sciences; Angie Gorassi, Centre for Financial Services; Jerri Johnson, School of Design; Kay Kaszuba,

Centre for Fashion Studies; Rachel Langford, Centre for Early Childhood Development; Dennis Lawson, George Brown Chief School; and Cindy McNairn, Centre for Nursing.

The Crystal Apple Awards are a student-nominated, recognition program coordinated by the George Brown College Foundation. GBC students must submit an essay outlining their reasons for nominating their teacher. Currently only full-time teachers are eligible for recognition through this program. A special thank you to the 2005 Crystal Apple Awards sponsors: Mr. Paul C. Carder and Activation Consulting Services.

COMINGS AND GOINGS

For the period between
May 1 and Sept. 5, 2005:

ARRIVALS...

Steffanie Adams
Professor, Faculty of
Business and Creative Arts

Atif Aljaz
Programmer Analyst C, ITS

Derek Allen
Technologist C, Faculty of
Hospitality and Tourism

Afshin Azari-Vala
Professor, Access Centre

Connie Barbour
Professor, Centre for Nursing

Diana Benjamin
Sr. Communications Manager,
Communications and Marketing

Adrian Bond
Professor, Faculty of
Business and Creative Arts

Lynn Buckerfield
Professor, Faculty of
Business and Creative Arts

John Camarda
Professor, Faculty of Technology

Suzanne Carere
Professor,
Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism

Cynthia Carey
Atypical SSO, Student Affairs

Mary Coutrouzas
Early Childhood Education,
Centre for Early Childhood
Development

Lynne Dalvisse
Atypical SSO,
Centre for Continuous Learning

Sina Emami
Atypical Library Technician,
Educational Resources

Elizabeth Fornasier
Professor, Centre for Nursing

Joanne Gellatly
Professor, Faculty of
Hospitality and Tourism

Michele Grotola
Professor, Faculty of
Hospitality and Tourism

Annika Hannan
Professor, Faculty of
Hospitality and Tourism

Ian Harper
Professor, Faculty of Technology

Abdulhadi Hassan
Professor, Faculty of Technology

Frank Ingold
Professor, Faculty of Business
and Creative Arts

Sharmaine Itwaru
Professor, Access Centre

Rose Jansen
Professor, Centre for Nursing

Valentyna Kalynovska
Atypical Analyst, ITS

Puneet Kumar
Programmer Analyst C, ITS

Thi My Hanh Le
Atypical SSO, Faculty of
Business and Creative Arts

Cindy Li
Programmer Analyst C, ITS

Oliver Li
Corporate Chef,
Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism

Kapildeo Mahadeo
Campus Manager Casa Loma,
Facilities Management

Mario Mancuso
Early Childhood Education,
University of Toronto Daycare

Sara McCormack
Early Childhood Education,
Centre for Early Childhood
Development

Maria Modopoulos
Publishing Manager,
Communications and Marketing

Tamara Obohov
Programmer Analyst C, ITS

Eloy Officer
Technologist A,
Centre for Nursing

Kathy Oleksy
Early Childhood Education,
Centre for Early Childhood
Development

Monika Patel
Support Services Officer A,
Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism

Andrea Prifti
Early Childhood Education,
University of Toronto Daycare

Sylvia Proana
Support Services Officer A,
Centre for Health Sciences

Deborah Reid
Professor,
Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism

Donna Reid
Professor, Centre for Community
Services and Development

Helen Rusan
Support Services Officer A,
Finance

Donna Saniche
Professor, Faculty of
Hospitality and Tourism

Vivek Shraya
Support Services Officer A,
Centre for Continuous Learning

Marlene Slopak
Professor, Faculty of
Business and Creative Arts

Christopher Timusk
Professor, Faculty of Technology

Candice Todd
Support Services Officer B,
Faculty of Business and
Creative Arts

Dorothy Van Grootheest
Support Services Officer,
Access Centre

Caroline Williams
ITS Client Service Manager, ITS

Qian Yang
Secretary C,
Centre for Health Sciences

DEPARTURES...

Teresa Abdoal
Financial Services

Franz Aschwarden
Mechanical Technician
Tool and Die

Robert Banks
Building Renovation
Access Centre

Adrienne Boudreau
Access Centre

Debbie Bright
Scotia Plaza Daycare

Derek Bruce
Theatre

George Carere
Business Admin. Cluster

Violette Catalfo
Technology

Hugh Colquhoun
Health and Safety

Elaine Daigle
Business Admin. Cluster

Ishwar Dean
Microelectronics

Natalie Deveaux
Fashion

Diana Dickey
Child Care Operations

Sidney Dolgoy
Information Technology

Kathleen Drynan
Accounts Receivables

Rosalie Kent Dwyer
Collaborative Nursing

Barbara Dyce
Community Services and
Health Sciences

Veronica Eccles
Learning Resource Area

Peter Felder
Fashion

Elve Foote-Weelink
Design Cluster C

Mary Froment
RPN

Grace Graham
RPN modified

John Herrington
Mech. System Apprentice -
Sheet Metal

Gary Hodson
ArchConstruct.
Post-Secondary Program

Colette Kane
Learning Centre Daycare

Carol MacDonald
Learning Resource Area

Aldo Matallo
Facilities Management

Sung Nahm
Employment Services

Ida Noel
Literacy & Basic Skills

Dennis Olesky
Facilities Management

Karen Press
Communications and Marketing

Jose Rodrigues
Housekeeping and Security

Richard Sash
Info Tech

William Southern
Design Cluster

John Swiderski
Business Admin. Cluster

June Justin
International School of Dentistry

Penelope Vernon
RPN modified

Gaetan Vincent
Computer Literacy Project

TRANSFERS TO...

Elisabeth Henriques
Communications and Marketing

Sandra Jackson
Fashion District Daycare

Suzette Jones
Richmond Adelaide Daycare

Ed Mark
Admin, Athletics

Comings and Goings will be featured in every third issue of City College News. It will list employees who are new to the College, who have left the College, who have transferred to a new department or position and who have passed away. Contact Diana Benjamin at dbenjamin@gbrown.on.ca or at ext. 2268 for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Intercession Week

October 24 to 28

Staff Development is offering some exciting learning and development opportunities for College employees during Intercession Week. Highlights of the week include the launch of the Career Development Series; "Unheard Voices" a one-woman play offering a powerful glimpse into the heart of hearing loss; "The Student Monologues — Stories of George Brown College" a special multi-media snapshot from the student's perspective; "Taking it off" a unique weight loss program for employees; the "Green Team" information session for those concerned about the environment; and Raymond Wlodkowski's seminar on student motivation and retention. For more details and to register, go to www.georgebrown.ca/staffdevelopment.

Jammin' to Jamaica

Friday, November 18, 2005

6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

ECE's fourth annual Jammin' to Jamaica fundraising dinner will feature gourmet food stations with a Jamaican flare, tropical drinks at the cash bar, and a silent auction. Proceeds of the dinner will help send ECE students to Jamaica to complete their work placements. Tickets are \$60 including a complimentary drink. For more information and to purchase tickets, contact Lynn Wilson at (416) 415-5000, ext. 2346 or lwilson@gbrown.on.ca.